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Hall, Kimberly Ellen ORCID logoORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5544-8764> (2023) We Make the Library by Being in It. In: BIG IDEAS, CHALLENGING QUESTIONS IFLA Satellite Conference - Art Libraries Section, 17-19 August 2023, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.

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WE MAKE THE LIBRARY BY BEING IN IT

My class of first-year BA (Hons) illustrators, working with our library at the Francis Close Hall campus of the University of Gloucestershire, were tasked with examining the structures around how libraries work and propose a plan to begin a zine collection. We first began this project because we felt the primary role of the art library is to acquire, store and provide access to materials, period, but in our practice several areas of disruption began to emerge:

- **EMBODIMENT** planning for cosiness in their zine collection proposals
- **JOY** emotionally move patrons in the library
- **SURPRISE** making the library alive with unexpected surprises
- **AUTHORSHIP** sharing a community of local zines over curating collections
- **SHARING** swapping zines with other university zine libraries



Module tutor: Kimberly Ellen Hall, Senior Lecturer Illustration, khall5@glos.ac.uk
Art Librarian: Rachel Reid, rreid@glos.ac.uk
Student researchers: Will Andrews, Tom Arnold, Holly Barlow, Harriet Best, Eleanor Birch, Reagen Burnip, Jack Cantillion, Ellie Chaffey, Liv Clark, Jodie Dean, Mia Fowler, Salem Francis, Freya Gillies-Foers, Lan Kippen, Rose Kollar, Molly Pack, Julia Pora, Finn Tregenza, Sophie Tucker, Wilson Venables, Jake Wellington, Amelia Whateley
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NO RULES

There are no rules to creating a zine, nor regulations, therefore zines are a fantastic way to test the boundaries of content and media to create and share their work on a personal level. —Anonymous

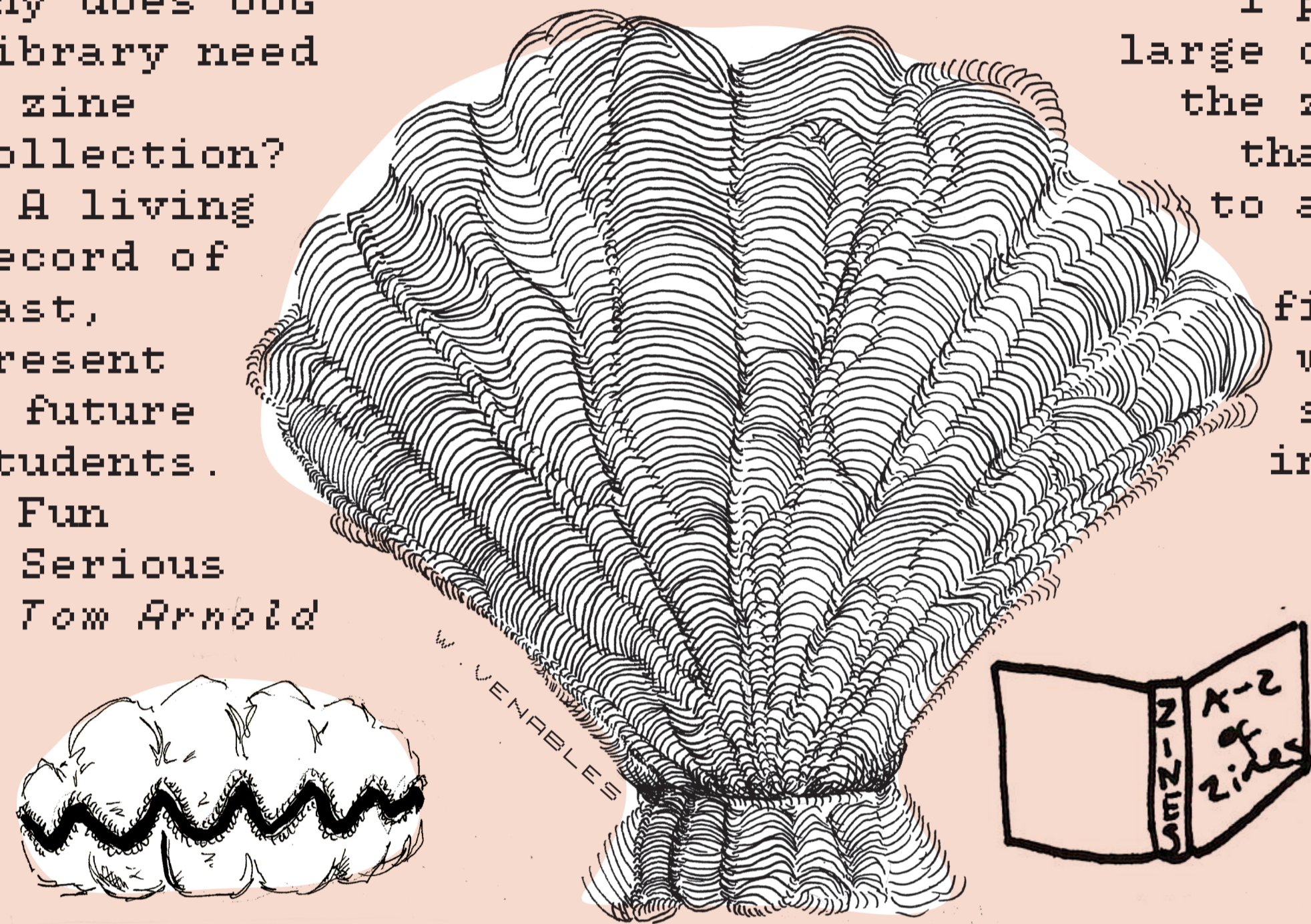
This idea might seem like it might be a little disorganised but I think this should be a fun thing and people can just look through the zine collection and if one catches their eye. —Jake Wellington

MAKE THE LIBRARY FULL OF UNEXPECTED SURPRISES

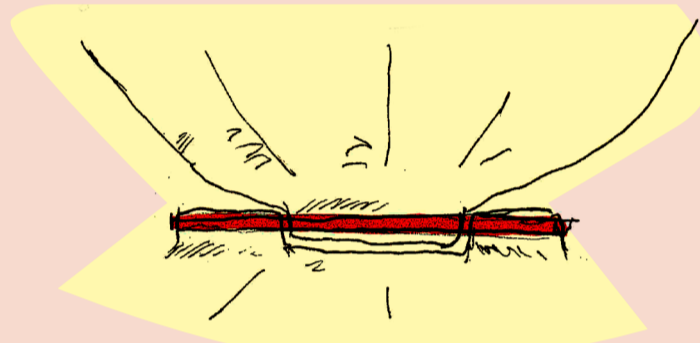
Why does UOG Library need a zine collection?

- A living record of past, present & future students.
- Fun
- Serious

—Tom Arnold



I propose to create a large opening clam to put the zines in. I believe that there is a value to a zine however they are quite rare to find out in the open world, so therefore should be kept safe in a sort of protective shell like a valuable pearl. —Wilson Venables



COMMUNITY

There could be an arranged day and time within the university where members of the public can come and leave their zines in a dedicated collection space. —Lan Kippen

I feel it would be beneficial to reach out to the community, in hopes of receiving zines which people may be willing to donate. This would allow students to be exposed to the work of those around them, and the wider community in which they are a part of. —Reagen Burnip

I find that it's hard to exclude content, especially when an artist feels that they want to share their work in a space like the library. —Salem Francis

Supporting local artists & offering the UOG art students access to a community of zine-makers. —Anonymous

Focus on creating comfortable community areas. —Eleanor Birch

WHY zines matter...

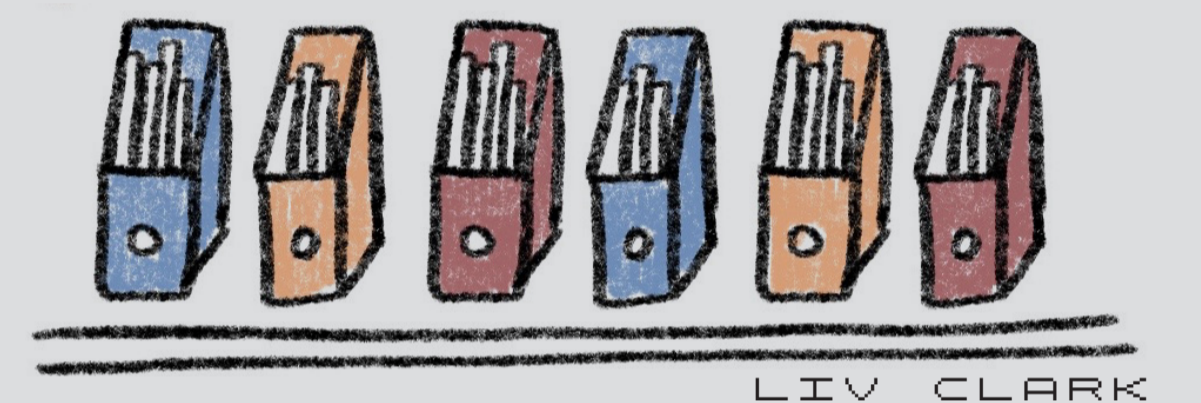
- alt. outlet for niche topics ignored by mainstream media
- Offer connection, community + networking
- Making your voice heard

STUDENTS

The library would have a zine donation basket at the front desk where students can donate a copy of any zines that they make... This would make this library have a unique collection of zines that are personal to the campus because they were made there. —Jake Wellington



One consideration should be to include zines from students outside of our university, because it would bring a broader range zines and help students make connections. —Harriet Best



MANAGING THE COLLECTION

- KEEP STUDENTS INVOLVED WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ZINES. ROTATE ZINE DISPLAYS CHOSEN BY THEM.
- EXPAND THE COLLECTION IN ACCORDANCE OF USAGE + DEMAND.

ELLIE CHAFFEY

I hope that the zine collection would encourage more students or staff to create their own zines and make the collection bigger. —Sophie Tucker

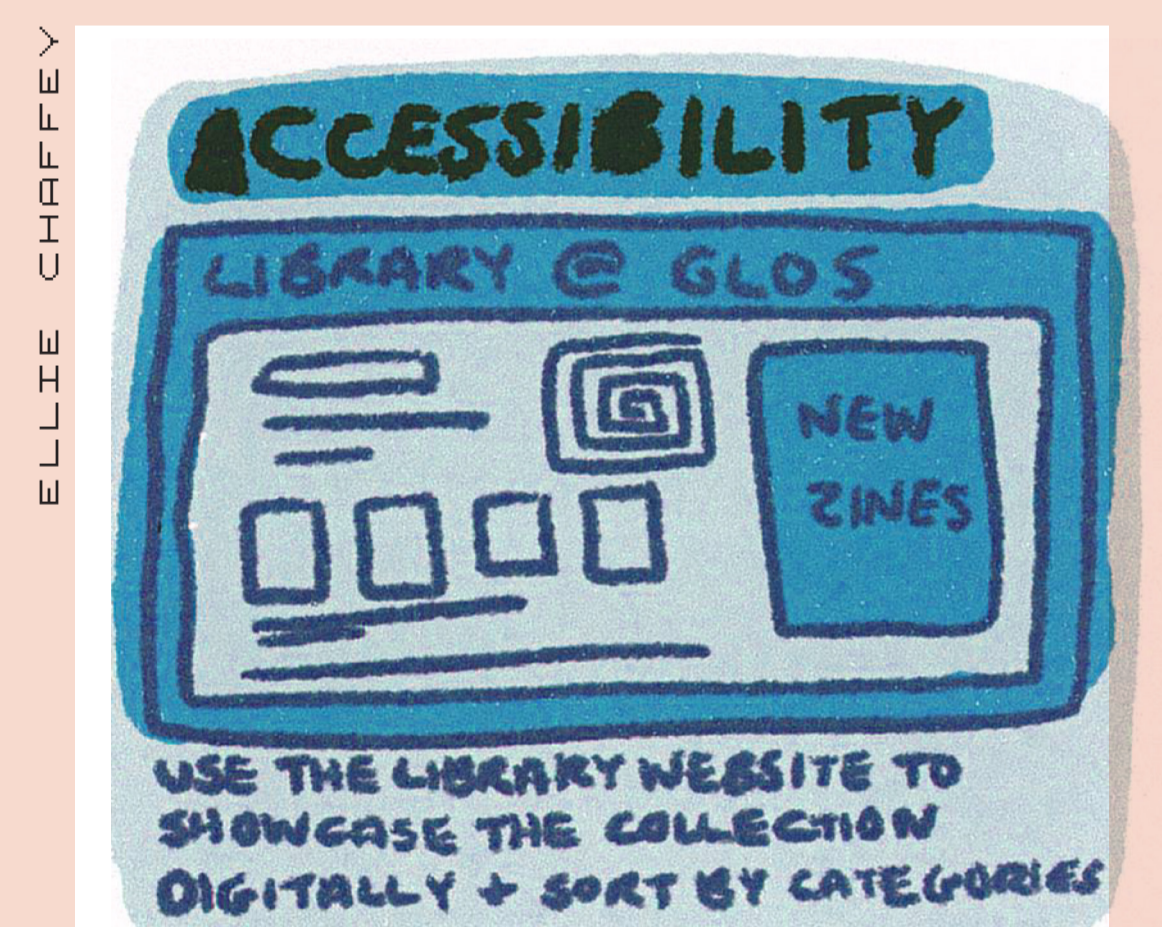
SPACE/DISPLAY

The zines could also be digitized so more people can access them. —Harriet Best

The space at the library entrance is a cosy little corner, immediately visible and already containing magazines. It would be a perfect space to put a zine collection. It feels a little clinical now so having that extra touch from local artists would liven it up a little bit, as it already has space to sit down in and browse. —Salem Francis



The Zine Library at FCH Campus needs to be open and accessible to all. Not just place in box files on a back shelf but on display. A living breathing entity. —Tom Arnold



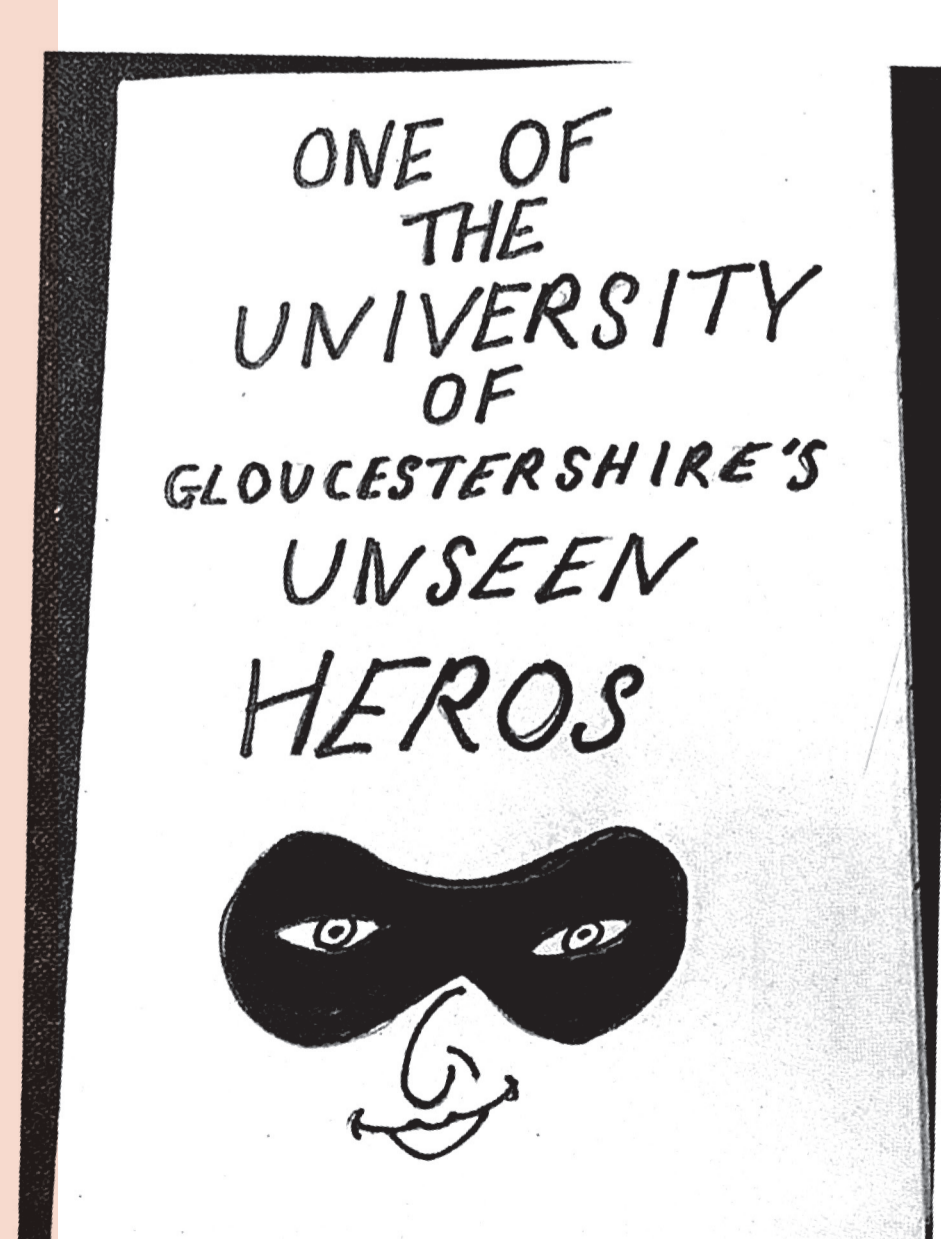
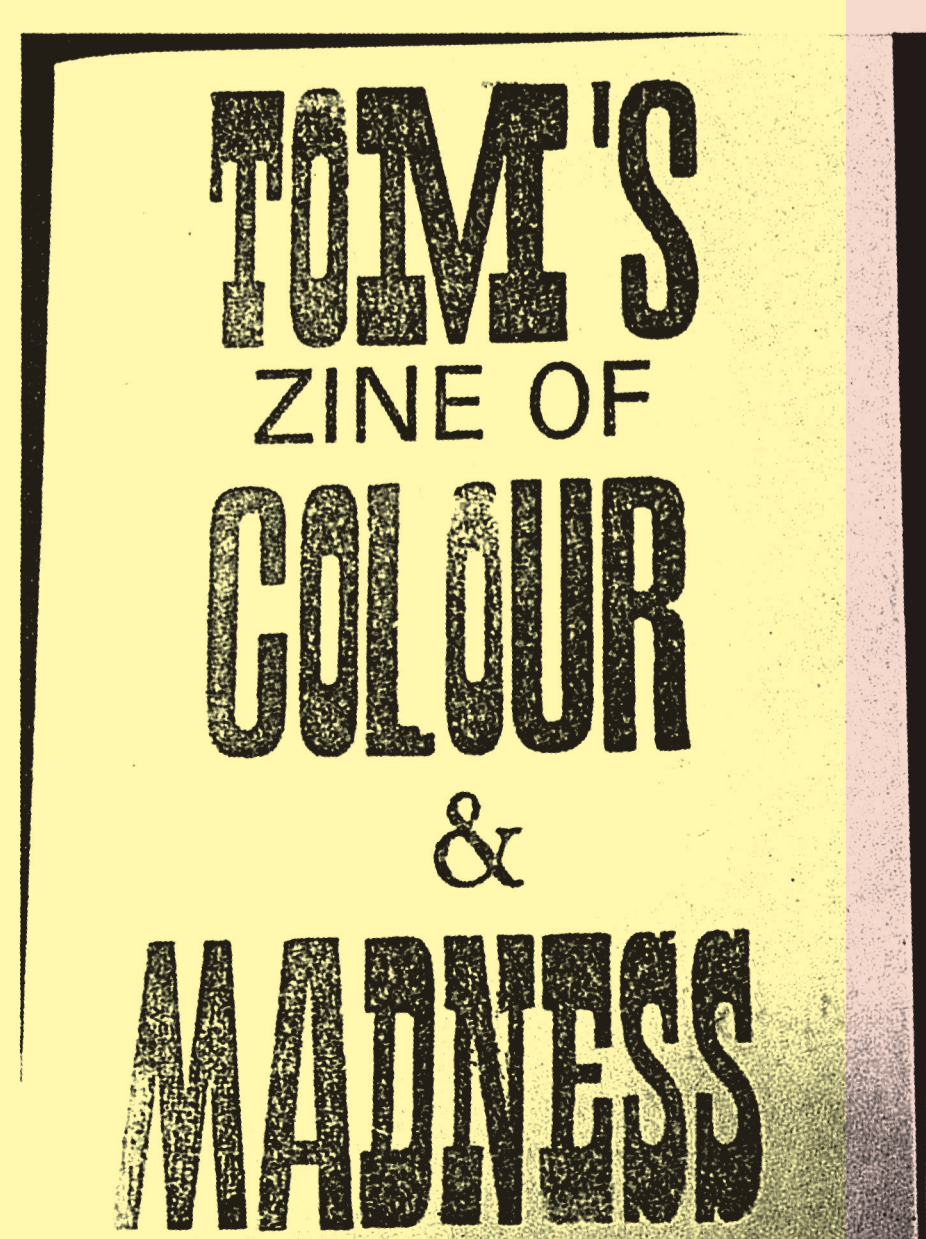
Reviews of selected zines on little cards on the shelves to advertise them and give a sense of what's on offer, whilst also being a helpful way to decide what would appeal to you. —Freya Gillies-Foers

WORKSHOPS

Holding zine workshops could encourage students to try making their own zines even if they are not in the art department and get them to investigate the zine library. —Harriet Best



Fundraising for this could be done by running a zine workshop for people outside of our illustration course (advertised via posters, Instagram, and any other valuable contacts)... it could be possible for the second years to try running these as part of their work experience module. —Lan Kippen



TOM ARNOLD

ACQUIRING ZINES

The first issue with zines is that they are self-published, so they often need to be sourced from individual sellers... I propose that the decision of what zines are in the library should be chosen by the students, as we are the primary consumers of library resources. —Amelia Whateley

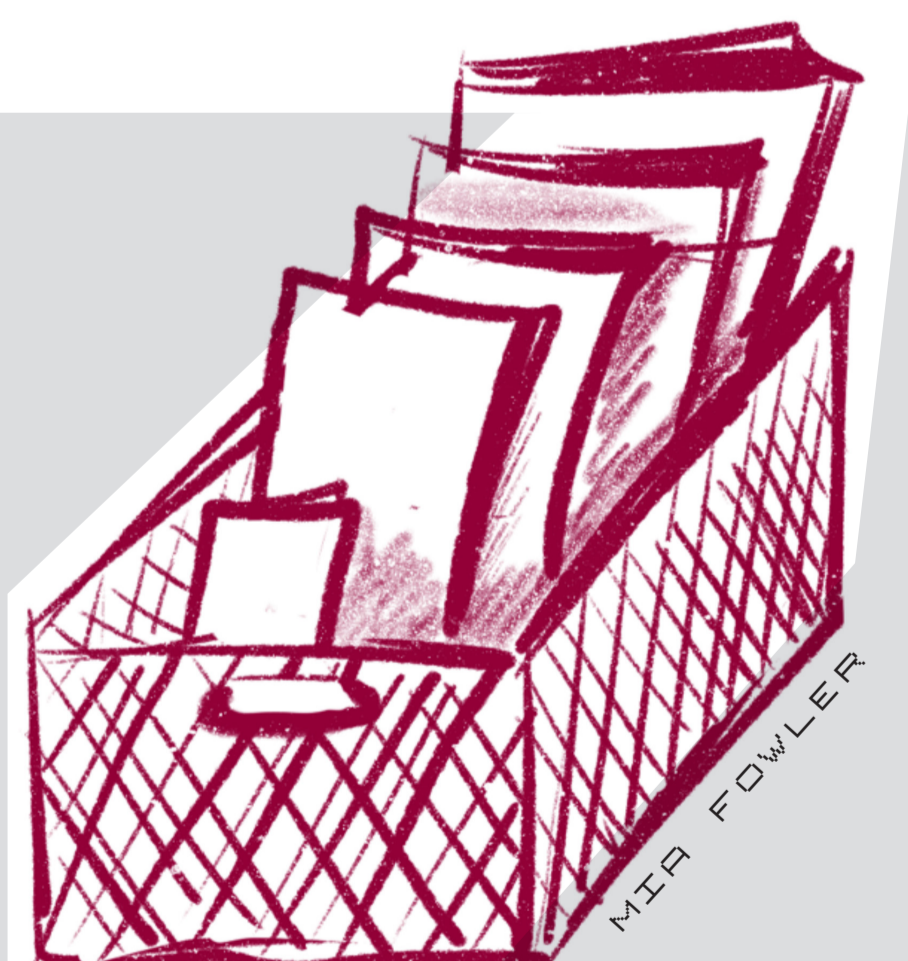


It would be nice if a lot of the donations were from students but also to be most ethical it would be better if the library was able to purchase zines directly from authors so that the creator is paid. —Jodie Dean

I feel like for the most part the zines should be submission-based, but if someone wanted to purchase one of the display ones, we should have a filing system of some sorts for each artist to be contactable & set a price for their work. —Salem Francis



Other Zine libraries are calling out for content. Why not set up a zine swap? —Tom Arnold



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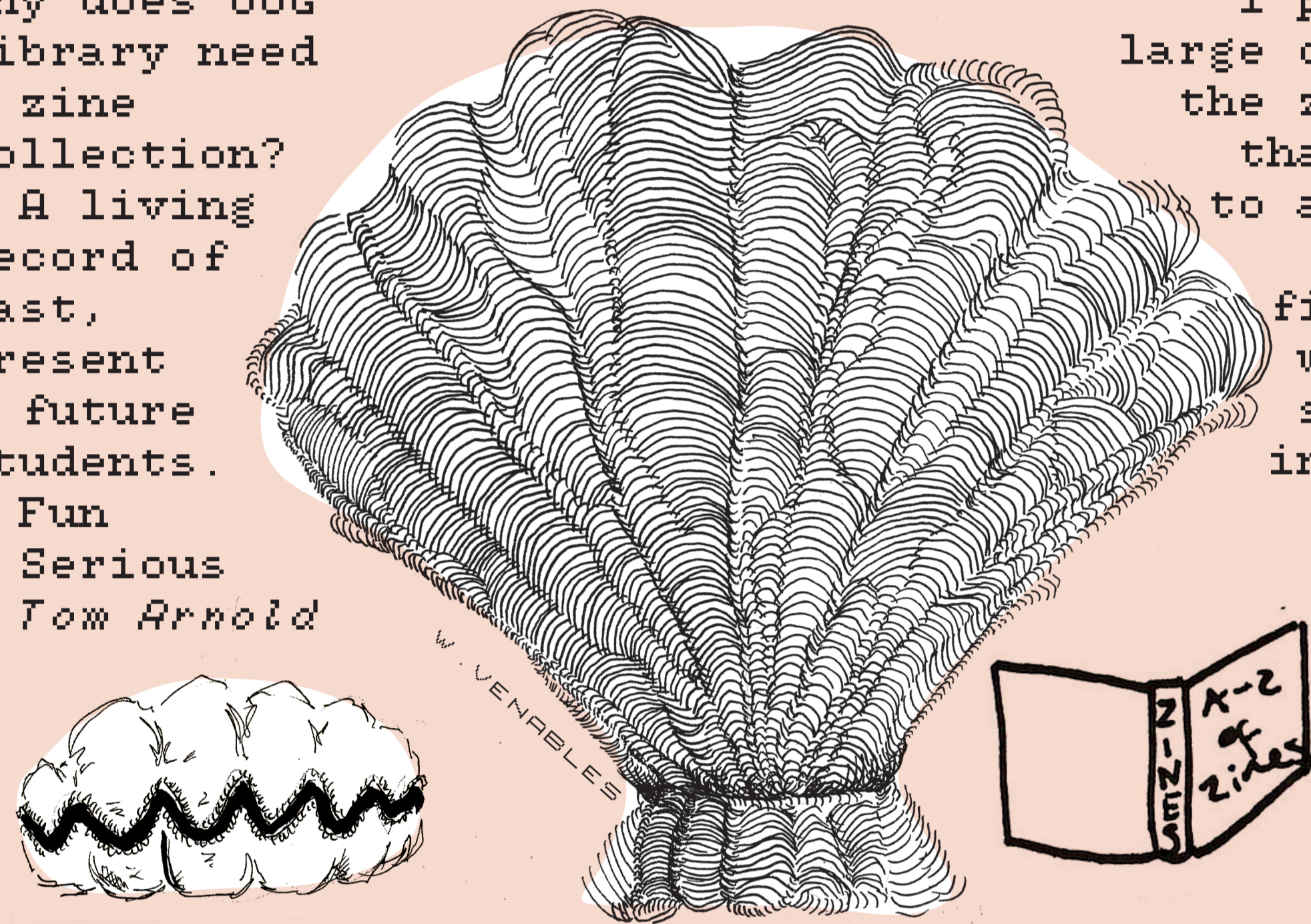
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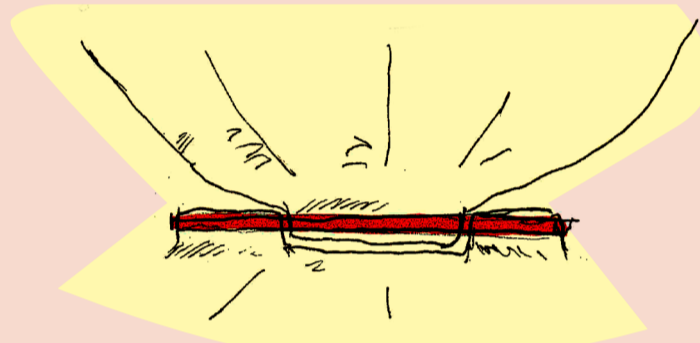
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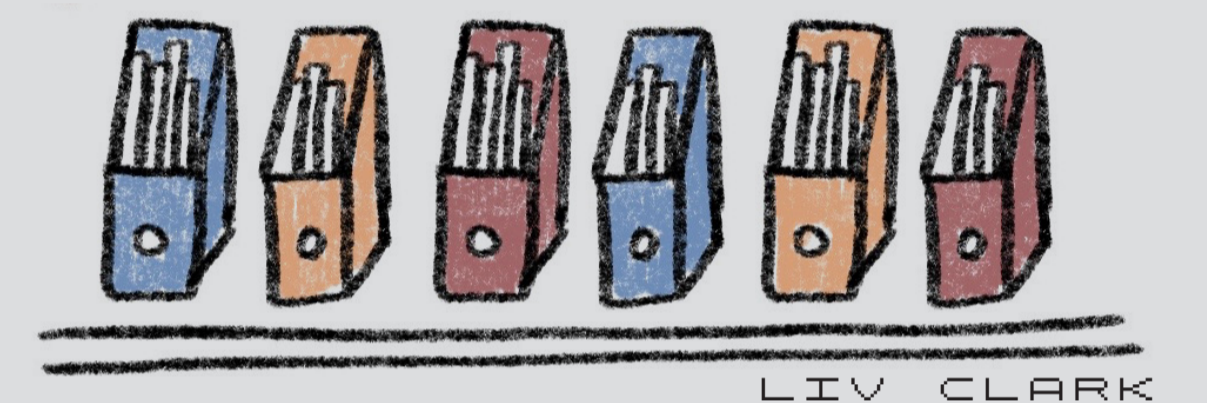
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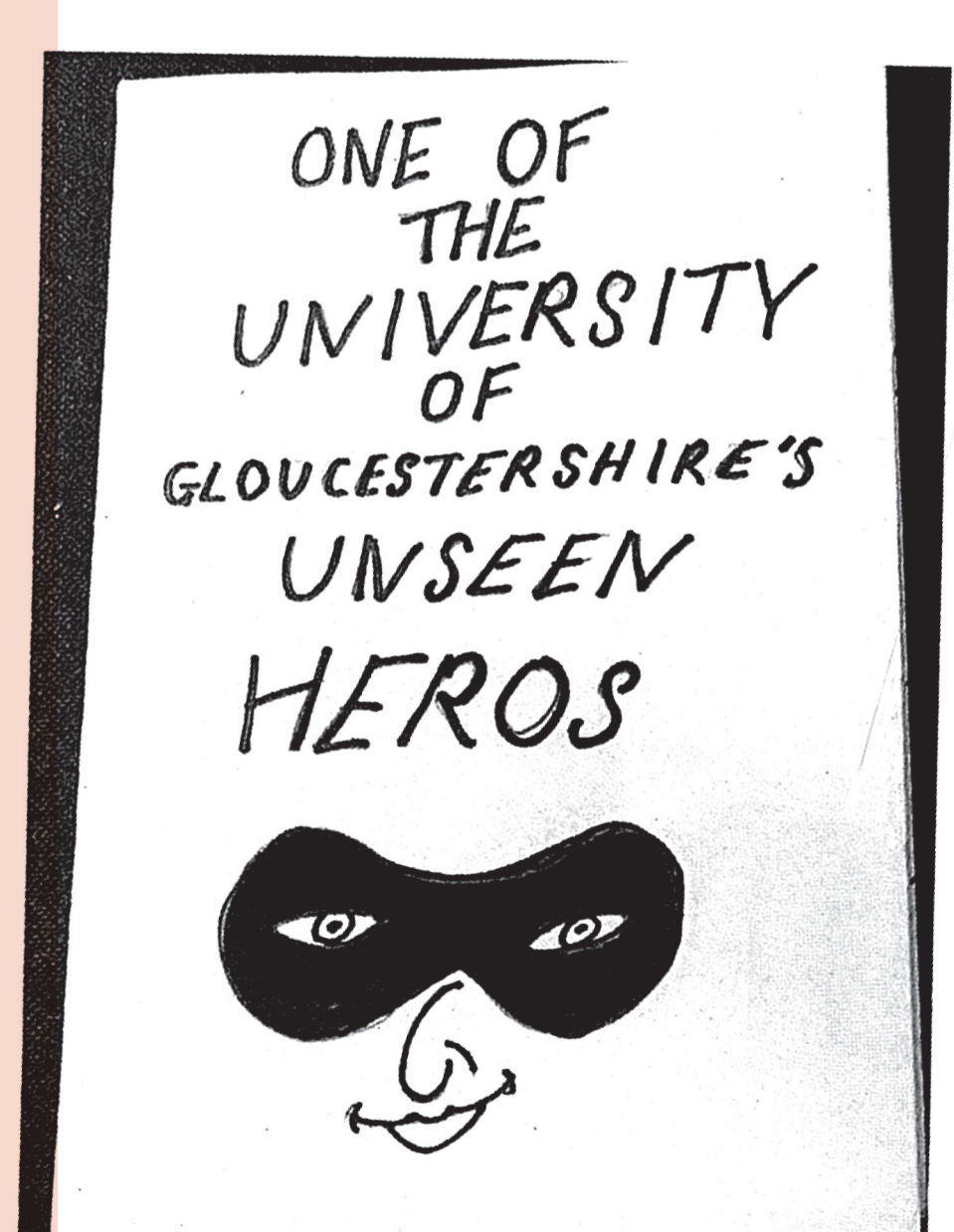
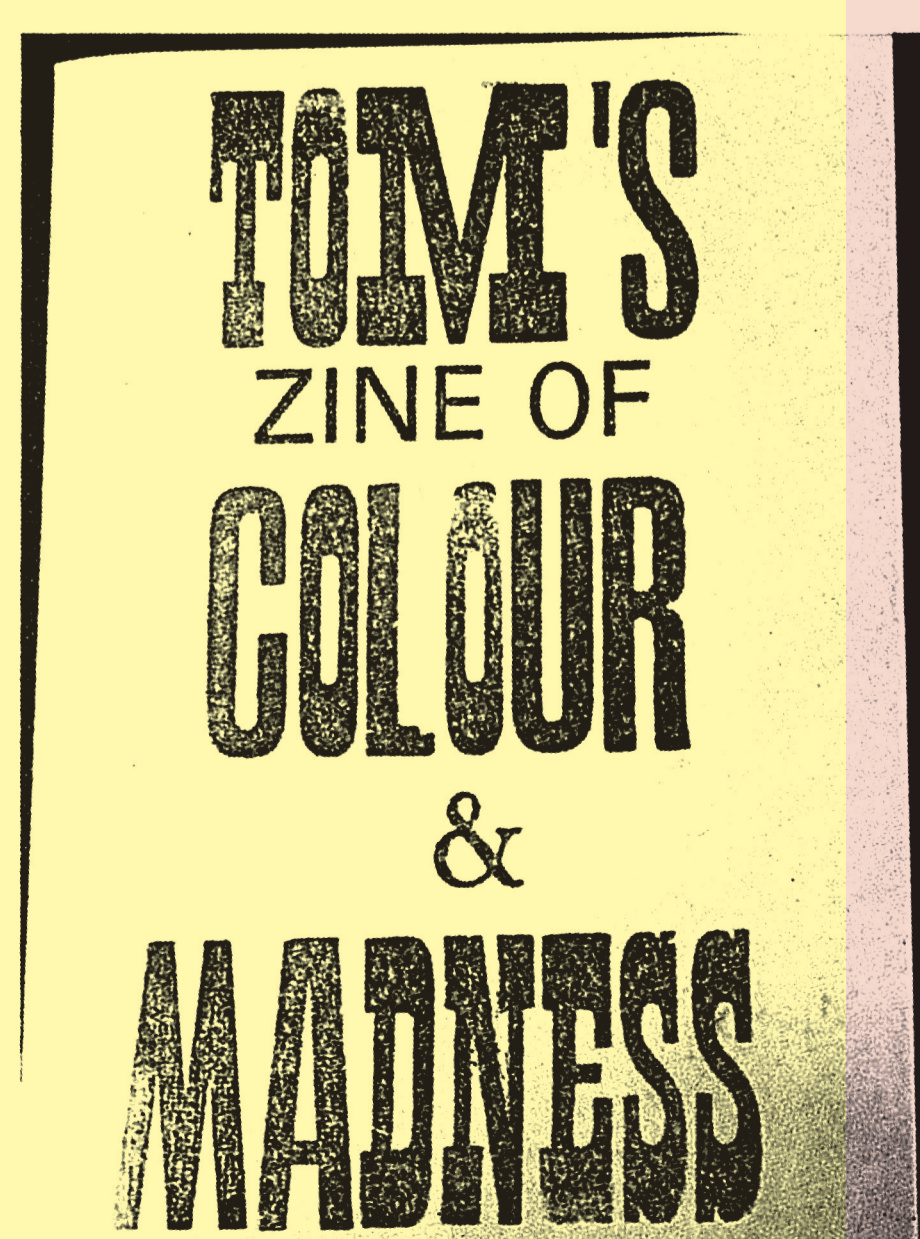
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